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10/081,615	02/21/2002	Kazuhiro Sato	450100-3922.2	2828

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EXAMINER	
ZHONG, JUN FEI	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2426	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/081,615	SATO, KAZUHIRO	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	JUN FEI ZHONG	2426	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *08 November 2010*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *25-40* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *25-40* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *21 February 2002* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Status of Claims

1. Claims 25-40 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 25-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Henmi (US 5,552,833) in view of Oda et al. (US 5204662), further in view of Haroun et al. (Patent # US 5787259), and further in view of Murray (Patent # US 5699089).

As to claim 25, Henmi discloses a reception device for controlling a recording module (e.g., image recording/reproducing apparatus 25; Fig. 9), comprising:

receiving means (e.g., reception means A; Fig. 9 and 16) for receiving a particular format file transmitted through a network (e.g., television-program table information is transmitted using teletext formats in a coding transmission system);

said particular format file including text based control commands (e.g., program start and program terminate information) that control said recording module (e.g., based on program start and program terminate information received, start instruction means 23 and termination instruction means 24 sends command to start/stop recoding

program) (see col. 3, lines 30-47; col. 4, lines 1-14, 45-60; col. 6, line 4 through col. 7, line 11; col. 7, line 35-col. 8, line 45; col. 11, line 54 – col. 12, line 12);

extracting means (e.g., signal extracting section 1; Fig. 9 and 16) for extracting at least one of said text based control commands from the received particular format file (co. 6, lines 6-12; col. 11, lines 54-62);

control means (e.g., comparator means 22 ; Fig. 9) for controlling said recording module based on the extracted text based control commands (i.e., based on program start/terminate information received to start/stop recording),

wherein the control means converts the text based control commands to codes based on pre-registered product information of the recording module (i.e., "an image recording/reproducing apparatus control section 38 for generating a control signal to an image recording/reproducing apparatus 39 by control information obtained by the added data decoder section 36"; the product information/or control codes must known to the system in order for the system to control the recoding apparatus) (see col. 6, line 62 – col. 7, line 10; col. 11, line 54-col. 12, line 20; col. 13, line 55-col. 14, line 15),

wherein the particular format file includes a text portion corresponding to the text based control commands (e.g., the program start/terminate information) (col. 3, lines 30-47; col. 4, lines 1-14, 45-60; col. 6, line 4 through col. 7, line 11; col. 7, line 35-col. 8, line 45; col. 11, line 54 – col. 12, line 12),

wherein the text portion has a different format distinguishing the text portion from other portion of the particular format file (e.g., the program start/terminate information has predetermine bits and bit position in a data stream) (col. 3, lines 30-47; col. 4, lines

1-14, 45-60; col. 6, line 4 through col. 7, line 11; col. 7, line 35-col. 8, line 45; col. 11, line 54 – col. 12, line 12)

wherein said control means uses a timer reservation function to reserve an operation time of said recording module (see col. 6, line 62 – col. 7, line 10).

Henmi does not specifically disclose recording modules with different code systems are controlled after the recording modules are registered.

Oda discloses recording modules with different code systems are controlled after the recording modules are registered (e.g., controller 20 stores VTR control command in memory 30; Fig. 1) (see col. 2, lines 15-32; col. 3, line 40-col. 4, line 32).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify Henmi's system to include control code register as taught by Oda in order to provide an audio/visual system with remarkably enhancing the handling convenience (see col. 2, lines 1-19).

Henmi and Oda do not specifically disclose the codes are downloaded from a server via internet after the recording module is registered.

Haroun discloses the codes are downloaded from a server via internet after the recording module is registered (see col. 7, line 43-col. 8, line 10),

interface means (e.g., device 490; Fig. 6) for determining code information assigned to an individual program and corresponding to the text based control commands, generating an infrared signal equivalent to the code information, and transmitting the infrared signal to the recording module (e.g., converts the commands to

infrared signals and directs to the appropriated electronic device) (see col. 10, lines 20-34);

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include device registration and command signal conversion as taught by Haroun in the recoding system of Henmi as modified by Oda for the typical benefit of ease of use, improved functionality, and reduced costs resulting from the elimination of the interface components of the consumer electronics devices (see col. 1, lines 25-29).

Henmi, Oda and Haroun do not specifically disclose icons indicating commands for determining functions of the recording module.

Murray discloses icons indicating commands for determining functions of the recording module (see col. 5, lines 5-40; col. 8, lines 30-67; Fig. 4),

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have command icons as taught by Murray to the recoding system of Henmi as modified by Oda and Haroun to have a graphical user interface that provides for controlling multiple sequential-playback objects which provides for ease of use, reduction of screen clutter, rapidity of command execution and conservation of computer resources (see col. 2, lines 39-45).

As to claims 30 and 35-36, they contain the limitations of claim 25 and are analyzed as previously discussed with respect to claim 25 above.

As for claims 26 and 31, note the discussion above, Henmi fails to disclose that said network through which the data is received is the Internet.

Haroun discloses the codes are downloaded from a server via internet after the recording module is registered (see col. 7, line 43-col. 8, line 10),

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include device registration as taught by Haroun in the recoding system of Henmi as modified by Oda for the typical benefit of ease of use, improved functionality, and reduced costs resulting from the elimination of the interface components of the consumer electronics devices (see col. 1, lines 25-29).

As to claims 27 and 32, Henmi discloses that said operation time of said recording module is stored in a memory (e.g., means 5; Fig. 9 and 16) (see col. 6, line 4 through col. 7, line 11; col. 12, lines 1-8).

As to claims 28 and 33, Henmi discloses that said recording module is a video recording module (see col. 4, line 49 – col. 5, line 14; col. 6, lines 52- 67).

As to claims 29 and 34, Henmi discloses that said recording module is a television program recording module (col. 4, line 49 – col. 5, line 14; col. 6, lines 52-67).

As for claims 37 and 39, note the discussion above, Henmi discloses recording module and storage means (see col. 6, line 4 through col. 7, line 11).

Henmi fails to disclose recording module is registered in a storage means accessible by said reception device.

In analogous art, Haroun disclose recording module is registered in a storage means accessible by said reception device (e.g., VCR is connected to computer 15 with IEEE 1394/USB bus which will cause computer 15 assign a ID to VCR; Fig. 1) (see col. 4, lines 5-30).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include device registration as taught by Haroun in the recoding system of Henmi as modified by Oda for the typical benefit of ease of use, improved functionality, and reduced costs resulting from the elimination of the interface components of the consumer electronics devices (see col. 1, lines 25-29).

As to claims 38 and 40, Henmi fails to disclose the registration information is retrieved each time said text control commands are received by said receiving means.

Haroun discloses the registration information is retrieved each time said text control commands are received by said receiving means (e.g., every command string includes device's name) (see col. 8, lines 39-55).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include device registration as taught by Haroun in the recoding system of Henmi as modified by Oda for the typical benefit of ease of use, improved functionality, and reduced costs resulting from the elimination of the interface components of the consumer electronics devices (see col. 1, lines 25-29).

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 25-40 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Although a new ground of rejection has been used to address additional limitations that have been added to claims 25, 30 and 35-36, a response is considered necessary for several of applicant's arguments since Henmi, Oda, Haroun and Murray references will continue to be used to meet several claimed limitations.

Applicant argues that "Henmi, Oda, Haroun, and Murray, taken either alone or in combination, fail to teach or disclose the above-identified features of claim 25. Specifically, nothing is found that teaches or discloses "interfacing means for determining code information assigned to an individual program and corresponding to the text based control commands, generating an infrared signal equivalent to the code information, and transmitting the infrared signal to the recording module," as recited in claim 25".

However, the examiner respectfully disagrees. Haroun discloses in col. 10, lines 21-34 and Fig. 6:

> A transport layer 480 is positioned beneath the protocol layer 455. The transport layer 480 transfers commands to the physical devices in a physical device layer 485. Commands formatted using the 1394 FCP protocol are transferred using the 1394 bus 20 while commands formatted according to the USB protocol 470 are transmitted using the bus 55. Typically, commands formatted using the infrared protocol 465 or the protocol 475 are transmitted using bus 20 or bus 55 to a device 490 that converts the commands to infrared signals or to a device 495 that converts the commands to radio frequency signals. The infrared or radio frequency signals are then directed to the appropriate consumer electronics device.

Therefore, Henmi in combination of Oda, Haroun, and Murray disclose the claimed limitation.

Inter alia, the rejection is maintained.

Conclusion

5. Claims 25-40 are rejected.

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Nishigaki et al. (US Patent # 5900912) is cited to teach by detecting start time data from video signal to start recoding video.

Iwamura (patent # US 5883621)

Humpleman et al. (Patent # US 6288716)

Inquiries

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JUN FEI ZHONG whose telephone number is (571)270-1708. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 7:30~5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Hirl can be reached on 571-272-3685. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JFZ
1/13/2011

/Joseph P. Hirl/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2426
January 14, 2011